

ABSTRACT

A method and system for the creation or modification of the wear surface of orthopedic joints, involving the preparation and use of one or more partially or fully preformed and procured components, adapted for insertion and placement into the body and at the joint site. In a 5 preferred embodiment, component(s) can be partially cured and generally formed *ex vivo* and further and further formed *in vivo* at the joint site to enhance conformance and improve long term performance. In another embodiment, a preformed balloon or composite material can be inserted into the joint site and filled with a flowable biomaterial *in situ* to conform to the joint site. In yet another embodiment, the preformed component(s) can be fully cured and formed *ex 10 vivo* and optionally further fitted and secured at the joint site. Preformed components can be sufficiently pliant to permit insertion through a minimally invasive portal, yet resilient enough to substantially assume, or tend towards, the desired form *in vivo* with additional forming there as needed.

2869689/3